

ship, from considerations of expense, to attach an idea of meanness to the whole or any part thereof, believing that in acting upon this principle, the completion of this great work, identified with the pride and character of the State, they will more fully accomplish the wishes and expectations of the Legislature, than by a course, which for the sake of saving, the building would when done be looked upon as a piece of mere patch-work.

In following out this rule, one of the most prominent cases showing the propriety of its general bearing and necessity of its observance, will be seen in the basement of the building, where the sides of the passages, partly put up in rough rock, during the first year of the work, and intended for plaster, are now designed to be superseded by walls of faced rock as high as the springing of the ground arches, if of plaster, as originally proposed, it would be easy to foresee that the sides of these walls, flanking the public high-ways of the building, in a short time would become defaced and mutilated—and when taken into consideration, their immediate connection with the basement rotundo of hewn rock, the incongruity would be so apparent, as to render them forever objects of painful contemplation.

The general design and plan of the building is now settled, and drawings made out for the execution of the work accordingly, which upon examination will be found, that the interior arrangement of its various apartments, with a view to the different objects of the building, are appropriate and harmonious. On the principal floor is located all the rooms necessary for the accommodation of the Legislature—in the North end, the Senate chamber—in the South end, the hall of the House of Commons, with suitable offices for their clerks; on each side of the passage ways connecting the Porticos with the Rotunda, are the committee rooms. In the Basement the offices for the different departments of the State—on the upper floor, in the East and West centre projections, the Supreme Court and Library rooms. the former thus situated, will be removed from the bustle and intrusion, to which it would be exposed, if placed contiguous to the public Halls; while the latter will be suitably retired, and